

# Sheriff

(352) 793-0222



**WILLIAM O. "BILL" FARMER, JR. – SUMTER COUNTY**

MEMBER, FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION  
1010 NORTH MAIN STREET  
BUSHNELL, FLORIDA 33513



February 1, 2010

Mr. Doug Gilpin, Chairman of the Board  
910 N. Main St.  
Bushnell, FL 33513

RE: Participation in the Sumter County Health Plan

Dear Mr. Gilpin:

I received your letter dated January 26, 2010, concerning the County Health Plan. As you know, I directed Chief Jordan in early January to begin the process to bid out the Sumter County Sheriff's Office health care insurance plan. The purpose was to attempt to save tax dollars and to see if a better health care plan could be obtained at the same or lower cost.

On January 19, 2010, Chief Jordan attended a BOCC budget workshop. It was at that meeting the Board of County Commissioners decided to also bid out health care. The County Administrator advised the Sheriff needed to decide by March 1, 2010, if we were going to participate in the County plan as they too, were going out for bid. If I had been aware that the Board of County Commissioners intended to bid out the health care plan, I would not have begun the process in January. My concern is that I may obtain a lower rate, but the County may obtain a higher rate due to the loss of my participation in the health plan, thus negating any savings to the taxpayer.

I am therefore agreeing to remain with the Board of County Commissioners health plan. All I request is that my office be given an opportunity to be active in determining what health care plan is agreed upon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William O. Farmer". Below the signature, the name and title are printed.

William O. Farmer  
Sheriff

WOF/pl